

*Markham*  
*1/29/03*  
*# 8*  
*Election*

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Fabrice Vitry, et al.  
Serial Number: 10/001,479  
Filed: November 1, 2001  
For: LATCHING DEVICE  
Art Unit: 3677  
Examiner: Dinesh N. Melwani  
Attny. Docket: 283-01

AMENDMENT

Commissioner Of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to a request for election/ restriction, under 35 USC 121, dated December 31, 2002, to which a one-month response is due by January 31, 2003, amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

The Examiner's request for restriction and election of species is respectfully TRAVERSED. Applicants assert that one or more of the species recited by the examiner are not patentably distinct. Furthermore, applicants reserve their rights to have any claim removed from consideration, reconsidered, once a generic claim is allowed, which reads on any species removed from consideration, and for which a dependent claim can be written which includes the limitations of the allowed generic claim.

Furthermore, the Examiner has required that applicant list all claims readable on the elected species, and correct the inventorship should less than the three listed inventors have invented the elected species.

The Examiner has required an election directed to the following species:

Species 1	-	Figs. 1-22
Species 2	-	Figs. 23-43